

belongs to a user that can be billed. It also has a mobile station certificate acquisition module to request a digital certificate for the mobile station from a gateway and verify that the gateway is authorized to issue the digital certificate by comparing variables computed by the gateway and the mobile station. The system and method also has a gateway certificate generation module to verify that the mobile station is authorized. This module also transmits an international mobile subscriber identifier received from the mobile station to an authentication center, and receives information which it can use to verify the authenticity of the mobile station by means of a challenge-response protocol. Once verified, this module generates and issues a digital certificate to the mobile station.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for identifying a mobile station to a service provider, comprising:
- accessing a gateway by the mobile station and transmitting an identification code for mobile station to the gateway;
 - verifying the identity of the mobile station by the gateway by accessing an authentication center and comparing mobile station generated variables computed by the mobile station and gateway generated variables computed by the gateway;
 - delivering a digital certificate to the mobile station by the gateway when the identity of the mobile station have been verified; and
 - transmitting a digital signature by the mobile station accompanied by the digital certificate for a signature verification key to said service provider.